

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 113135
ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /015 R

66011
DRAFTED BY IO/HDC:EDDIE EDWARDS
APPROVED BY IO/HDC:EDDIE EDWARDS
-----013940 041017Z /21
R 032225Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO USMISSION GENEVA 1504

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FOL RPT USBERLIN 1034 ACTION BONN SECSTATE INFO PARIS ANKARA
ISTANBUL HAMBURG MILAN MUNICH CINCUSAREUR 29 APR 78 QUOTE

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DEPT PASS TO NIDA (DR. PERSON); BONN FOR DEA SAIC AND SAANA;
PARIS,ANKARA,ISTANBUL,#HAMBURG,MILAN,MUNICH FOR DEA

E O 11652: NA
TAGS: SNAR GW WB
SUBJ: BERLIN QUARTERLY NARCOTIC REPORT

1. BERLIN POLICE AND CUSTOMS SEIZED OVER FIVE TIMES MORE HEROIN AND
ARRESTED OVER THREE TIMES AS MANY PERSONS (381 PERSONS V. 111) ON DRUG
CHARGES IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1978 THAN DURING THE SAME PERIOD LAST
YEAR. WHILE PRIMARY EMPHASIS IS ON INTERDICTING HEROIN TRAFFICKING,
SEIZURES OF CANNABIS ARE ALSO THREE TIMES GREATER THAN FOR THE FIRST
QUARTER OF 1978 ARE DOWN (15 COMPARED TO 24 AT THIS TIME LAST
YEAR).

2. THE DRAMATIC INCREASE IN SEIZURES AND ARRESTS SHOWS THE
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IMPACT OF GREATLY ENHANCED ANTI-SUPPLY EFFORTS IN THE CITY.
IN PART THIS IS DUE TO THE MUCH GREATER EMPHASIS PLACED BY THE
POLICE ON NARCOTIC WORK. IT IS ALSO THE PRODUCT OF ASSISTANCE
AND ACTIVITIES BY DEA AND US MILITARY LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES,
AND BETTER AVAILABILITY OF DRUG INTELLIGENCE RELATING TO
INTERNATIONAL HEROIN OPERATIONS.

3. WHILE PROGRESS IS BEING MADE, THE DRUG PROBLEM IN BERLIN NEVERTHESS REMAINS SERIOUS. THERE ARE SOME INDICATIONS, HOWEVER THAT THE PURITY OF HEROIN, ALTHOUGH STILL HIGH, MAY BE SOMEWHAT LOWER THAN BEFORE. IT IS TOO SOON TO TELL WHETHER THIS DEVELOPMENT, IF TRUE, HAS YET HAD AN EFFECT ON THE HIGH OVERDOSE DEATH RATE HERE. AT THE SAME TIME, THE STREET PRICE OF HEROIN HAS DROPPED, ENSURING THE CONTINUED ATTRACTIVENESS OF BERLIN AS A PLACE TO BUY. THAT THE PRICE SHOULD BE DROPPING IN SPITE OF INCREASED SEIZURES AND ARRESTS IS ATTRIBUTED BY SOME TO ALLEGED OVERPRODUCTION IN OPIUM-GROWING AREAS.

4. THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT THAT HEROIN CONTINUES TO ENTER THE WESTERN SECTORS OF THE CITY IN LARGE TOTAL QUANTITIES, PRESUMABLY VIA ROAD, RAIL AND AIR ROUTES. IN AN EFFORT TO DETER THE MISUSE OF SECTOR-SECTOR TRAVEL FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE WESTERN ALLIES ARE COMPLETING NEW INSTRUCTIONS ENABLING BERLIN POLICE AND CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES TO MADE INCREASED SEARCHES OF PASSENGERS USING THE EASTERN-RUN ELEVATED TRAINS. TO MAINTAIN THE WESTERN POSITION THAT ACCESS BETWEEN THE FOUR SECTORS OF THE CITY SHOULD BE UNHINDERED AND THAT THE SOVIET/WESTERN SECTORS LINE IS NOT A INTERNATIONAL FRONTIER, INCREASED CONTROLS, WHILE MORE FREQUENT, WILL STILL BE OF A RANDOM NATURE.

5. THE FOLLOWING COMPARATIVE SEIZURES WERE MADE IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1978 AND 1977:

FIRST QUARTER 78	FIRST QUARTER 77
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CANNABIS - 17.491 KILOGRAMS	5.068
CANNABIS OIL - 7230 GRAMS	NONE
RAW OPIUM - 15 GRAMS	NONE
MORPHINE - NONE	NONE
MORPHINE LIQUID - NONE	2 ML
MORPHINE TABS - NONE	9 TABS
HEROIN - APPROX 8 KILOGRAMS	1.448 KILOGRAMS
HEROIN LIQUID - NONE	5.0 ML
LSD - 136 TABS	505 TABS
COCAINE - 0.06 GRAMS	15 TABS

6. THE 15 BERLIN CIVILIANS REPORTED AS HAVING DIED FROM HEROIN OVERDOES IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1978 RANGED FROM 19 TO 29 YEARS OF AGE. 10 WERE UNDER 25. 12 WERE MALE. 7 OF THE 15 WERE KNOWN PREVIOUSLY AS DRUG ABUSERS. ALL WERE SINGLE. THE 15 CONSISTED OF 13 GERMANS, 1 AUSTRIAN AND 1 FRENCH NATIONAL.

7. USCOB CONCURS.SEMLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NARCOTICS, QUARTERLY REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE113135
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EDDIE EDWARDS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780190-0344
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780595/aaaaddsh.tel
Line Count: 114
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 211e23a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2799585
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BERLIN QUARTERLY NARCOTIC REPORT
TAGS: SNAR, GE, WB
To: GENEVA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/211e23a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014